

name in a good cause, would donate anywhere from \$500 to \$5000 for the purchase of books, specially on technological subjects. Books of this class are generally very expensive, and with our present limited resources we cannot begin to keep this class stocked as it should be. The idea here suggested has been acted upon in other cities, each book so purchased having a special label, stating that the book was purchased with funds supplied by——. I have mentioned the technological department as worthy of special notice, because it is here that our apprentices, mechanics, manufacturers, inventors and scientific investigators will find the information which may serve to keep our city in the front rank as a manufacturing centre.

But while it may be largely increased with benefit to the Library and the city, our collection in this department is already very good, compared with other departments, and better still the books are in constant demand.

One gentleman who was pursuing an exhaustive series of practical experiments in technology, and who has had occasion to use the libraries in other cities, complimented this Library, recently, on having, not a larger, but a better selection of technical books than some libraries had in cities three or four times the size of Hamilton. But of course donors may designate other classes of books if they desire.

Persons interested in the various charitable and other institutions of the city, are particularly requested to see that their annual reports are sent regularly to the Library. It is earnestly desired that any printed matter relating to the city be sent, so that in time the Library may become a complete repository of local history.

Thanks are also due to those publishers and friends of the Library who have contributed papers to the Reading Rooms.

ASSISTING READERS.

James Russell Lowell tells us that formerly the duty of a librarian was considered too much that of a watch dog, to keep people away from the books, so as to keep them as fresh and little worn as possible; but that the modern librarian takes a different view of his duties by devising aids for readers.